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Virginia G. Fox, Secretary
Education Cabinet
James A. Nelson, State Librarian
and Commissioner

Kentucky Department for Libraries & Archives

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Documentary Legacy Marked With Statewide Archives Week Celebration, October 10-16

FRANKFORT, Ky. (September 29, 2004) -- Kentuckians across the Commonwealth will celebrate their rich documentary heritage during the third annual Kentucky Archives Week, October 10-16, 2004. Almost 300 archival and manuscript repositories in Kentucky hold original records and special collections materials documenting Kentucky history and life. These include family papers, church records, business records, photographs, diaries, letters, and government records, such as deeds and wills. Archival institutions and local governments across the state are marking the event with open houses, proclamations, exhibits, special programs and speakers to highlight historical materials available for research in Kentucky archival and manuscript repositories.

Education Cabinet Secretary Virginia G. Fox, whose cabinet includes the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives, said it's important to remember that annals contain valuable links to Kentuckians' treasured past. "This state has a fascinating historical legacy. We've been fortunate to possess many records, letters and diaries that date from the days of the first settlers," said Fox. "Kentuckians have opportunities to see special collections, archives and libraries not only in Frankfort, but in other repositories statewide. It's so important to take advantage of these gifts, because researching our history keeps it alive and gives us a better sense of self and place."

The Kentucky State Historical Records Advisory Board will present two Certificates of Merit to commemorate Kentucky Archives Week. Frances A. Cotterill, Mason County Clerk, will be honored with a Certificate of Merit for her notable work as a public official in preserving historic records. The authors of the *Encyclopedia of Louisville*, edited by John Kleber, will be recognized collectively with a Certificate of Merit for writing based on research performed in Kentucky archival repositories.

Kentucky Archives Week is sponsored by the Kentucky State Historical Records Advisory Board, the Kentucky Council on Archives, and the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives. For further information, call 502.564.8300 x. 249.

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